

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 187

By Roberts

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Henderson "Hank" Hillin, Jr.

WHEREAS, we were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Henderson "Hank" Hillin, Jr., a gentleman who served his country and its most treasured values as a member of the U.S. Army, a special agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and the sheriff of Davidson County; and

WHEREAS, a Middle Tennessee resident his entire life, Hank Hillin grew up on a farm in the Neely's Bend community of Madison and graduated from Isaac Litton High School in Nashville; and

WHEREAS, he earned a bachelor's degree from Lipscomb University, where he starred as a baseball player; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hillin subsequently served as a teacher and coach at Williamson County's Hillsboro High School, where he met the love of his life and future wife, Frances Mangrum; and

WHEREAS, he then served his country in the U.S. Army, for which he engaged in counter-intelligence work; and

WHEREAS, after his separation from the military, Hank Hillin began an illustrious twenty-seven-year career with the FBI; and

WHEREAS, his most notable assignment with the Bureau was his investigation of the pardons and paroles scandal involving former Tennessee Governor Ray Blanton; he served as the lead special agent on the successful operation, which he later wrote about in his 1985 book, *FBI Codename TENNPAR*; and

WHEREAS, after his retirement from the Bureau, Mr. Hillin served a term as the sheriff of Davidson County from 1990 to 1994; and

WHEREAS, an entrepreneur, Hank Hillin was involved in real estate development and farming, but his real passion was for writing; and

WHEREAS, he expressed his devout faith as a member of Hillsboro Church of Christ, which he and Mrs. Hillin attended for more than fifty years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hillin was a dedicated husband, father, and family man; his grandchildren and great-grandchildren were the light of his life; and

WHEREAS, Hank Hillin is survived by his loving wife of sixty-eight years, Frances Mangrum Hillin; his sons, Jim (Suzanne) Hillin and Tim Hillin; his daughter, Rachel (David) Wesch; his grandchildren, Houston (Christina) Hillin, Rachel (Bryon) Fanning, John Hillin, Katie (John) Houston, Ford Hillin, Reid (Amy) Hillin, Jim (Lucy) Hillin, Hank Hillin, Hillin Wesch, David Hillin, and Matthew Hillin; and his great-grandchildren, Aulin, Noelle, and Frances Hillin, Summit and Shepherd Fanning, Evie, Lila, and Jones Houston, Jackson, Hawkins and Shirley Hillin, and Henry Hillin; and

WHEREAS, above all, Hank Hillin embraced honesty and integrity as a public servant and law enforcement professional, and his legacy will continue to inspire future generations; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Henderson "Hank" Hillin, Jr., reflecting fondly upon his life of purpose and commitment to the greater good, and extend to his family and many friends our sympathy and condolences.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to

the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.